



BURGH OF SALTCOATS.

ANNUAL REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FOR SCOTLAND
AND LOCAL AUTHORITY OF THE BURGH OF SALTCOATS.
MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Thirteenth Annual Report on the Sanitary Condition of the Burgh of Saltcoats, compiled in accordance with the instructions of the Circular of the Department of Health for Scotland for December, 1938.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant,

J. G. CAMPBELL.

Saltcoats, March, 1939.

General Survey

Although the weather in 1938 was exceptionally poor, very little illness resulted. The usual epidemic of respiratory diseases of influenzal type in the spring was mild and of short duration.

There has been very little unemployment, so that the general standard of living has been higher.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply is from the Munnoch and Caaf Reservoirs of the Irvine and District Water Board, and has always been adequate for domestic purposes, but owing to an increased demand for commercial purposes an additional Reservoir is being built further up the valley above the Caaf. The water is of a soft peatty nature, and the standard of purity is always high.

DRAINAGE.

There has been no change in the method of sewage disposal. It is discharged directly into the sea, and is carried seawards by the set of the current and winds. But frequently on calm days during the summer months solid faecal matter contaminates the shallow water on the West Beach. This may, however, drift over from the Ardrossan outfall in the region of the Inches.

New sewers have been provided in the areas of the new Housing Schemes.

Refuse disposal is carried out as before.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There is only one offensive trade carried on in the Burgh, it is on a small scale, and has given rise to no complaints.

HOUSING.

PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE HOUSING (SCOTLAND) ACTS, 1925 TO 1938.

(a) SUFFICIENCY OF WORKING-CLASS HOUSES.

At the end of 1938 the Townhead Scheme (52 houses), and the Old Raise Road Scheme (72 houses), had been completed and occupied; also 30 of the 162 houses of the New England Scheme. The remaining 132 houses should all be occupied during 1939. Plans for 100 more houses have been passed, and operations commenced on this site, but it is unlikely that they will be ready for habitation during 1939.

An estimate was prepared by the Burgh Surveyor in December, 1938, showing the Housing Requirements and Building Proposals during the five years 1939-1943 to be 675 houses.

(b) HABITABILITY OF EXISTING HOUSES.

HOUSING (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1930.

1—Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit for human habitation during year following on notices under Section 14 (1),	8
2—Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served during year in terms of Section 16 (1),	...	...	...	36
3—Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which following on notice under Section 16 (1):—				
(a) Undertaking has been given during year that house will not be used for human habitation until it has been rendered so fit,	...	...	...	5
(b) Undertaking has been given during year that house will be rendered fit,	...	...	...	2
(c) Demolition orders have been made during year under Section 16 (3),	None			
(d) Closing orders have been made under Section 16 (3) and (4),	...	...	...	4

(c) CLEARANCE OR RE-DEVELOPMENT AREAS UNDER THE HOUSING (SCOTLAND) ACTS, 1930 AND 1935.

No progress has been made with the scheme to deal with the Quay Street-Harbour Street area mentioned in my last Report.

(d) OVERCROWDING.

1—Number of cases of overcrowding relieved as a result of action taken by the Town Council from date of survey to the end of 1938,	192 cases concerning 1105 persons.			
2—(a) Number of houses of each size in which overcrowding has been relieved during the same period as a result of action taken by the Town Council:—				
	1 Apartment.	2 Apartments.	3 Apartments.	
Town Council	3	6	15	24
Private Owners	52	108	8	164
(b) Total number of overcrowded families who have been re-housed in privately owned houses,	...	...	...	39
3—Number of cases in which dwelling-houses in respect of which Town Council have relieved overcrowding have again become overcrowded,				13

SLAUGHTER-HOUSE.

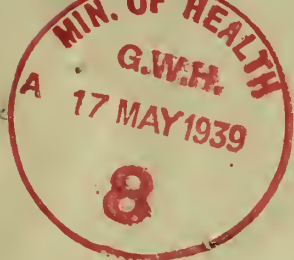
The Slaughter-house is the property of the Local Authority, and no other licences are issued. It has been regularly inspected, and found to be satisfactorily conducted throughout the year.

Class of Animal.	Slaughtered.	Wholly Condemned.	Partially Condemned.	Weight (in lbs) of Condemned Meat and Offals.
Cattle	760	2	38	2618 lbs.
Sheep	1847	—	—	—
Pigs	2	—	—	—
Calves	450	—	—	—

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are no factories within the Burgh.

The Workshops and Bake-houses have been inspected, and found to be satisfactory.



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